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further proof of identity is afforded by an allusion in the introduction of the Christian work to views which are found advanced in the Mathesis: *quod in fabricatione hominis artifex effecit, ut antea diximus . . . specialiter retexenda sunt*. With this cf. Math. prooem. 3, 7 and 8. The relationship is clear and striking, and it is remarkable that it could have escaped the attention of earlier scholars. After demonstrating that the author of the two works was one and the same person, the author devotes the remainder of his dissertation to an instructive survey of the sources of Firmicus Maternus in his two works.

In thus giving a *résumé* of the contents of this valuable treatise I have shown, I hope, how penetrating and thoroughgoing a work of investigation it is. The author's main result is an important contribution to the history of later Roman literature, and in arriving at it he has, in addition, made most valuable independent contributions to the history of the Latin language.

G. L. HENDRICKSON.

Asadī's neupersisches Wörterbuch 'Lughat-i Furs,' nach der einzigen vaticanischen Handschrift, herausgegeben von PAUL HORN. Berlin, 1897. (Abhdgn. d. k. Ges. d. Wiss. zu Göttingen, Phil.-Hist. Kl. N. F. Band I, 8.) Pp. 1-37 + 1-133.

An important contribution towards advancing Persian lexicography has been made in the publication of an edition of the early work above cited. Asadī's lexicon is the oldest native Persian dictionary; it belongs to the eleventh century of our era, and it has been preserved in a unique manuscript found in the Vatican. The name of Asadī, moreover, is of interest because he was a nephew of Firdausī, the renowned author of the *Shāh Nāmāh*. He is known to have had two predecessors in Persian lexicography; but as their works are lost, Asadī's dictionary heads the list in the history of native word-treasures. His position in Persian lexicography, in the eleventh century, may be compared, perhaps, with that of Milton's nephew, Edward Phillips, whose 'New World of Words' (1656) occupies a somewhat similar place in England in the seventeenth century.

Dr. Horn has given an elaborate introduction to this *editio princeps* of Asadī; and he prints the full text in the original Persian. The system which Asadī adopted in arranging words is not the arrangement according to initial letters, but according to the final syllable of the vocable. Such an arrangement, of course, had a practical value for the Persian rhymesters, although the dictionary does not seem to have enjoyed very extensive use. In the present edition, the alphabetic index to the folios enables one readily to find the words that occur.

Like modern lexicographers, Asadi has endeavored to illustrate the meaning and usage of words by drawing examples from Persian literary works that were standard in his time. Seventy-six authors are thus found to be cited. The quotations are usually introduced by *guft* 'says X'; for reference by page, column and number was then unknown. Fragments from missing works have happily come to light in consequence of Asadi's citations. The most interesting, perhaps, (p. 19) are four verses from Rūdhakī's lost version of 'Kalīla and Dimna' which will interest Semitic and Sanskrit scholars. Starting with this identification as a hint, Dr. Horn has succeeded in finding several other verses which have come from the same poem.

The old lexicographer had an ear also for the different dialects of his day, and his linguistic distinctions have a value. The dictionary likewise gives a number of new forms or of less common words which are noteworthy, e. g. from Daqīqī *χōī* 'helmet' beside *χōd*; or similarly *murvā* 'good omen, augury,' cf. Pahlavī *murvāk*. There are a number of others to which the editor has drawn attention in his partial summary on pp. 32-4.

The Introduction is of interest, and the publication is welcome, and it was a worthy undertaking for the Göttingen Academy. We shall look forward, at no distant date, it is hoped, for the appearance of a new Persian-German dictionary which Dr. Horn himself promises to prepare and which he is admirably qualified to make a valuable production. Best wishes for his success!

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, Dec. 4, 1897.